



OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN.

WHAT DO WHEAT AND CORN EAT?

We eat the wheat and corn, said a little boy to his father, but what does the wheat and corn eat? At first, we thought this was a childish question indeed, but on a little reflection we find it a wise question in a childish form, and one that cannot, in the present state of agricultural science, be so readily answered.

That the wheat and corn crop, like every other, must be sustained by certain elements, is evident to all, but what those elements are, in regard to corn at least, has not yet been ascertained.

We have several times made an abstract of the reports which different chemists have given of the analysis of wheat, in their researches, in regard to the ingredients of this valuable grain. At the risk of using a repetition, though we hope not a vain repetition, we shall again give some statements on the subject.

The Royal Agricultural Society, of England, having funds sufficient for the purpose, employ chemists, from time to time, to analyze crops, soils, manures, &c. &c. Some time since they employed Mr. Way, an eminent chemist, in this business. The question submitted to him, was, in substance, what the organic material does an average crop of wheat take from the land? Or, in the more simple language of the child, what does the wheat eat?

After analyzing about fifty specimens, of different sorts of wheat, he found that what the land the following: 84 lbs. of silica (flint), 30 lbs. of phosphoric acid, 4 lbs. of sulphuric acid, 8 lbs. of lime, 6 lbs. of magnesia, 1 lb. of potash, 25 lbs. of soda, these are the inorganic substances; or, in other words, the mineral substances which the "wheat eats"; and as we eat wheat, these are the mineral matters which we eat, though they are so combined as to become palatable food, and not dust to our mouths.

Well, if this is the wheat eats, it is important that every field of wheat that we sow, should have enough to eat.

The greater part of the above ingredients, you will see, is flint, which gives to straw and the coat of the grain, its peculiar gloss and durability. The phosphoric acid and the alkalies are supplied by manures of different kinds. Bone dust, for instance, being made or obtained by animals that eat grain or some crop that contains it, will, if applied to the soil, supply it again with phosphoric acid. Ashes will afford the potash. Plaster affords the lime—and the soil generally affords the silica or flinty matter; or it may be taken from the ashes of plants.

But besides these mineral or inorganic matters, wheat eats what are called organic substances, or such matters as have been a part and parcel of some organized being, either of the animal or vegetable kingdom. The principal of these are carbon (or charcoal) and nitrogen. These are obtained from animal or vegetable substances applied as manure. These organic substances, when the plant is burned, fly off into the air in the form of smoke and gases.

What does the corn eat? Here we are not able to answer so definitely, because there has not as yet been so complete and thorough analysis made of Indian corn as of wheat. We mean, of the stalk, leaves, roots, husks, kernel, cob and all. It is evident, however, that it contains as many kinds of inorganic or mineral matter as wheat, but the proportion must vary from them essentially.

It is also evident that it contains a greater proportion of organic matter than the wheat does. Its body is larger—more fleshy—and more filled with carbonaceous matter—its leaves vastly larger—its roots more spreading and extensive, and the cob also containing much carbonaceous and alkaline matter. Hence one reason why it bears high manuring with animal matters, so much better than wheat. Still, no accurate analysis has yet been made, by which we are informed how much it eats—or, in other words, what amount of inorganic substances an average crop of Indian corn takes from the land.

If any of you ascertain soon, we should be happy to hear from you.

PROPAGATING GOOSEBERRIES BY LAYERS.

Many shrubs, such as gooseberries, roses, &c., are very easily propagated by layers, and we would recommend to those who wish to have a plantation of gooseberries, to begin to multiply plants by immediately bending down branches—fastening them down by pins of wood, and covering them over with earth. They will take root and may be cut off in the spring, from the main root, and set out as independent plants.

If a little pains were taken to set out gooseberry plants in wet, neglected spots on the farm, and a little manure applied occasionally, a great abundance of this excellent fruit could be very easily raised. Perhaps they would not be quite so large as those cultivated in gardens, but they are not so liable to mildew and blight, and are of good flavor.

BLEEDING OF THE VINE. Dr. Underhill stated before the New York Farmers' Club, that the bleeding of the vine, so far from being injurious, seems to insure a good crop of grapes. [Albany Cultivator.]

RIBSTONE PIPPINS.

A friend, in a private letter, makes some enquiries respecting the best locality for the apple called the Ribstone Pippin. As we have never had much experience with this excellent variety of apples, we would be obliged to those of our friends in Kennebec, who have raised it, for any information they may give us.

Ives, in his book of fruits, recommends a south and rather moist soil for it.

Mr. J. W. Russell, of Newton, Mass., published a communication on this variety (Ribstone Pippin) in the 10th volume of Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture. He there observes that trees of this kind of apple growing on a flat level plain, ripened their fruit about three weeks too early, therefore did not keep so well through the season as those that were not so early matured. He goes on to make the following remarks respecting them. Whether they will apply to our latitude, so much farther north than the one which he speaks, we cannot say.

"In fact the situation that is not unfrequently supposed most eligible, experience finds to be the reverse. A southern aspect is often preferred, which is decidedly the most unfavorable that can be selected for this particular apple."

"I believe we have much to learn in the choice of the most favorable localities, before we shall be successful in the cultivation of some of the most superior apples not natives of America. A north-west slope I should prefer to any other for reasons thus: the tree would not start to grow so early in the spring; the roots would not suffer so much with the summer drought; and last but not least, the fruit would be larger and finer, and would not ripen so early by a fortnight or three weeks. A rich, deep soil, rather wet than dry, is best adapted for the apple tree, [generally]—land half covered with rocks, that cannot be well cultivated with the plough, would be a desirable locality, especially in a dry season, as the trees would not suffer with the drought."

REARING CATTLE.

Messrs. Editors: With many farmers the sole engrossing subject of their mind appears to be, how to raise grain; while the full as profitable, and less laborious practice of raising cattle, appears to be to a great extent overlooked.

The first object which should demand the attention of every farmer, is the proportion of stock necessary to consume the feed which is produced from his farm. If he buys more stock than he can keep, he will be obliged to sell them while they are at a great disadvantage. While if a sufficient number be kept, his grass will run to waste and he will thus incur a loss of profit.

Some attention should be paid when purchasing cattle, to the nature, fertility, and situation of his farm, also to the design for which he rears them whether for milk or beef. In purchasing cattle, whether in a lean or fat state, they should on no account be taken from a farm which exceeds his own in fertility; otherwise he must sustain a material loss by their not thriving, especially if old. When practicable cattle should be bought in the same neighborhood, or from land of the same or inferior quality to his own. Neither should they be taken from a place abounding in pure water and transferred to a place where little or none can be procured. Willness of disposition, without being deficient in spirit is of great consequence; unruly cattle, independent of the trouble of fencing against them, and the crops destroyed by their depredations, require much more to keep them than those of a more gentle disposition. A cow for milk should have a small head, a broad, smooth forehead, black eyes, smooth elastic skin, white udders, not fleshy but thin and loose when empty, (to contain the larger quantity of milk) but large when full. The shoulders should not only be light and broad and rounded off at the lower parts, but also broad and well covered with flesh. The back should also be wide and level throughout. In selecting for beef; those should be chosen which weigh most in the valuable parts, and less in the least, such as the head, bones, &c. The body should be as compact as possible, while the breadth and depth of the carcass should be large in proportion to their height. The age of cattle can be easily ascertained. They shed no teeth till two years old, when they get two new ones; at three they get two more, and so on until five years old when they have all new teeth though the two corner teeth are not fully up until they are six. The horns of cattle at three years old are smooth and handsome, after which period there appears a circle or wrinkle each year as long as the horns last. These circles must not be confounded with ringlets which are sometimes found at the root of the horn, and which are pretty sure indications that the animal has been poorly fed during its growth. W. W. [Dorchester News.]

NEW MODE OF GRAFTING.

In some of the high winds, early in June last, I had some pear grafts broken off, which had been inserted a year before, and were of strong growth. Wishing to preserve the kind, it occurred to me that it was possible to do so by cutting off the short branches from the main branch, and using them as scions. These scions were from an inch to three inches in length, and were cut out of the main branch in the same way as in budding, and were grafted the same as in T. budding; being carefully tied with matting. The sticks in which they were grafted, were cut off a little above the place of insertion.

The result of this experiment has been highly satisfactory, for not one of the scions failed; but all commenced growing in ten or twelve days, and grew from two to three feet in the course of the season.

I have tried various other methods of grafting and budding; but never with as good success as in the manner here described. P. D. S. [Albany Cultivator.]

ON ACQUIRING A KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATURAL SCIENCES.

Numerous facts on record unite to convince me that agriculturists would find it very advantageous to habituate themselves to making minute examinations of little objects and incidents in nature which occur at every step, but are too often disregarded. It is desirable that agriculturists should not only read books on natural history, but that they should closely observe with their own eyes everything in the fields, orchards and gardens, that they may glean some useful hints from Nature's own volume.

In the cultivation of plants, it has been found best to proceed on such scientific principles as a correct knowledge of their structure and functions will suggest. The system of the rotation of crops by which the produce of our land has been quadrupled, and the acclimation of plants by hybridization or engrafting, by which means the fruit and flowers of more southern regions are reconciled to our climate, are only two out of many examples which might be adduced of the benefits conferred by botany upon agriculture. While science dictates such valuable trifling facts as those, the mere observation of which often suggests useful ideas. It is said that the occasional natural union of boughs of dissimilar trees, demonstrated the practicability of grafting, and that the observation of the circumstance of a vine shooting more vigorously after a goat had browsed on it, suggested the valuable art of pruning fruit trees. One of the Emperors of China having noticed that a particular stalk in his garden produced better rice than the rest, cultivated it for several years; and then having fully satisfied himself and his subjects of its superiority, he distributed its grains among them for their general benefit. A farmer having remarked that some gooseberry bushes, growing under an elder tree, were exempt from caterpillars, was induced to try the efficacy of a decoction of elder leaves in destroying the grubs that infested his turnip crops, and he and other farmers who repeated the experiment found it successful.

It is not only necessary that the agriculturist should be well acquainted with the nature of the different vegetables which he cultivates for economical purposes, but that he should rightly understand the causes of the several ravages and diseases to which they are subject, so that he may be able to devise proper remedies and preventions. In nine cases out of ten, the failure of crops and the pecuniary losses experienced thereby, arise from the attack of some particular species of destructive insect, which, from unknown causes, has appeared in unusually great numbers. Before any effectual steps can be taken against it, it is absolutely necessary to ascertain correctly what species of insect is causing the mischief, and to study the creature's habits in all its transformations; for what will prove more or less effectual in one stage of its existence, will be totally useless, or perhaps, increase the evil in another. Notwithstanding the immense annual losses which must be caused by the millions of destructive insects that infest all kinds of crops, the science of entomology is comparatively neglected by agriculturists, who are, therefore, frequently unable to give a definite description of any noxious insect to a naturalist, when they enquire his opinion and advice.

Those husbandmen who have possessed some knowledge of natural history, have not merely been better able to cultivate their plants and protect them from the attack of hurtful creatures, but they have ascertained thereby what creatures are harmless and useful, and therefore to be spared and encouraged. Without this power of discrimination, they will be unwittingly led into the error of destroying creatures which were absolutely beneficial to them.

Natural history in its most extended sense, being inseparably connected with all the arts of life, ought to form a part of the education of those who wish to promote them, and benefit by them. In every school, whether intended for males or females, for the rich or for the poor, natural history should find a foremost place as an elegant and useful accomplishment.

The culture of plants will become a comparatively easy process when we are better acquainted with their peculiar functions, and with the chemical elements which they require for their growth and maturation. We must not be content with knowing what are their respective natural locations, climates, and seasons, but must learn what chemical gases each species imbibes from the atmosphere, through its leaves, and what substances from the soil, through its roots. "If a plant be distinguished by its containing a notable portion of soda, silica, &c., the soil in which it is to be grown must contain the elements, otherwise the attempt will be abortive," for a plant can no more create soda or silica within itself, than it can form water for its support, independent of the soil or atmosphere. From a knowledge of the principles, therefore, a rational theory of agriculture may be formed; and what has hitherto been little better than an expensive and often distressing system of trial and error, becomes a science guided by fixed laws. Agriculture will always have to contend with the fluctuations of seasons and climate; but it is for human ingenuity to modify their influence, and this only can be effected by rational and scientific procedure. As yet, the science of Agriculture is in its infancy, but the time is not far distant when it will rank with other mature branches of knowledge—when every soil will be systematically treated for the species of crop to be raised upon it—in short, when the farmer will sow and reap with as much security as the distiller produces his spirit. The value of the science of chemistry to the agriculturist, may be judged from the fact that when the great chemist, Lavoisier, took a quantity of land into his own cultivation, he very soon succeeded in doubling its produce.

J. H. FENNEL.

[Journal of Agriculture.]

THE FARMER'S LIFE.

[From the Massachusetts Ploughman.]
O give me the farmer's life,
I care not for the rest;
I know it is with hardships rife,
Yet 'tis with pleasure blest.
Away in some sequestered nook
Where Eury, hute and strife
Have never dared to take a look,
He leads a quiet life.
Give me the strong, athletic frame,
The firm and sinewy limb;
The Student and the Priest may claim
An arm that's weak and slim.
Give me the cheek whose ruddy glow
Shall tell of healthful toil;
Where warblers sing, and breezes blow,
And flowers deck the soil.
Some say he's poor; I say not so;
Look on his sunburnt cheek,
And tell me if that joyous glow
Dob not of richer speak!
A wealth that those who live in ease
And revelry, know not;
A wealth not wrung by rest and fees,
From those of humbler lot.
It is a wealth the furrow'd field
And mountain breeze bring;
It is a wealth I would not yield
To any other king.
Yes, give me the farmer's life,
First health and strength possessing,
Away from tediousness and strife,
I'll ask no greater blessing.
BARD OF SOREHAM.

MR. BANCROFT'S SPEECH.

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society in York, England—

"I esteem it a distinguished privilege that you have called upon me on this occasion to propose a sentiment which will be responded to most warmly from the heart of every one in this numerous assembly (cheers.) I think you all for the cordial manner in which you have welcomed me to rise. I esteem it not as personal to myself, but as an evidence on the part of the farmers of Yorkshire, that they, too, like the farmers of every other part of England which has been my lot to visit—that they, too, cherish the sentiments of friendship and regard for that other nation beyond the Atlantic."

"Where Chatham's language is the mother tongue." (loud cheers.) And let me seize this opportunity to express my grateful sense of the cordial welcome which I, in common with others, have received in Yorkshire. Your invitation, my lord, brought me on a pilgrimage to this fairland, this world renowned vale of Mowbray, this land of abbies; and I, in common with others, can testify that, if the old monasteries are crumbling to the dust, the spirit of hospitality still survives, and has lost nothing of its worth (loud cheers.) And to what an entertainment we have been invited! (cheers.)

We are assembled at the base of the most stupendous monument which was ever reared by the genius, the delicate taste, and the religious sentiments of our ancestors (vociferous cheering,) and which has been so carefully restored and preserved by the pious zeal of their posterity, (renewed cheers.) It seems as if the centuries themselves had descended around us to welcome this living and moving panorama of the industry of England to-day (cheers.) It seems as if the centuries of the past had welcomed us to behold the results of our farming and husbandry—results, let me say, which it would be idle to speak of as surpassing the beets that are browsed on the pasture or the snow white bulls that of yore graced the hecatombs of Pagan Rome (loud cheers.) No, it would be idle to pass praises of that kind. You yourselves, farmers of a country which beyond all others excels in farming—you yourselves were astonished as you contemplated the stock, and saw what could be produced by the skill, the emulation, and the perseverance of English farmers (loud cheers.) Nor may I omit to add my mite of admiration at the wonderful results of the ingenuity of this people. In the yard in which the implements are displayed we see the wonderful results that have been accomplished by the workmen of an ingenious nation, enjoying the blessings of liberty, who live in a climate which for all you may say of it, is one of the very best in the world; the first of any climate in avoiding the excesses of heat and cold, and by that means being, above all others friendly to industry (cheers.)

And I too, as I come here, must add my sentiment of joy at being now present, as it brings with it reminiscences of home (cheers)—for on the other side of the Atlantic we love to give to the cities which we establish to the towns which we plant, and to the villages that mark the line in which the English language proceeds in its course towards the Pacific—we love to give them names that remind us of our ancient homes (tremendous cheering)—and that beautiful emporium of American commerce—the city that is starting forward more than any other in the race of prosperity—the city that gets the ocean side—the city that more than any other by its commercial relations binds together the two hemispheres—that city has taken the name of New York, and its people are not likely to forget the ties of consanguinity (reiterated cheering.) Thus I am naturally led by the manner in which you assent to those sentiments of friendship which I have uttered to congratulate myself, and to congratulate you, that we live in an age when nations exult in the prosperity of one another (cheers.) I rejoice that we live in an age when, of all the trees that are planted, the husbandman of every land invokes the choicest blessings of Providence on the tree of peace (vociferous cheers,) and pray that its roots may strike to the very centre of the earth, and that it may become so firmly rooted that its boughs may but rustle in the breeze of the stormiest revolutions (loud cheers.)

It is with these sentiments and these feelings that I stand before you this day. The kindness of your president has given me an opportunity of offering a toast which does not require me to put myself forward as a diplomatist—which does make it necessary for me to speak as a privileged spy (cheers and laughter)—but I can only say that any one who comes from any quarter of the world to spy out the nakedness of the land in England will have to go home for his pains (loud cheers.) He can see nothing here but a united people (great cheering.) He can see nothing here but a nation that loves English liberties, and that is determined to maintain and advance them under the influence of judgment, of reason, and of the public weal (cheers.) He can see nothing here but a society bound together in the firmest arch, and the keenest cannot detect a crevice. And I speak as in America—I speak as the representative of my country, when I tell you that we rejoice in your returning prosperity (loud cheers.) I should be distressed by my countrymen if I did not utter that sentiment (cheers.) I tell you that the greatest delight I have had in this very happy visit to this far famed valley, this wide, rich, this vast extended valley, this valley which has not its rival till you go south, and pass the Alps and come upon the valley of Lombardy—I tell you that the greatest pleasure I have had in this visit is to see everywhere that your teaming fields promise you a redeeming harvest, before which the sorrows of the past year, which I, too have witnessed, will pass away like the shadow of a summer's cloud (cheers.)

I think I have in my eye the architect of the bridge over the Conway; and I would say, therefore, in reference to what I have seen of the industry, enterprise, perseverance and hardihood of the English people, that their prosperity is assured—that it is like this beautiful famed bridge over the Conway, which by the bravest tars that can be imposed upon it, does not bend so much but that the first gleam of Heaven's sunshine restores it to its true level (cheers.) And now that I have shown to you my sympathy in your occupations and pursuits, you will allow, perhaps, that your president has not done wrong in giving me the distinguished honor of proposing the health of your president elect (cheers.) I shall not undertake to pronounce his eulogy; for there are cases where to speak of another might be esteemed as an arrogant assumption. I shall not pronounce his praises, because, on an occasion like the present, the voice of truth might too lightly be misinterpreted as the language of eulogy. But this I am authorized to say, that in selecting a president of the society the voices of the electors fell upon the Earl of Chichester, (loud cheers) not merely because he was a landowner, not merely because he dwelt on his estate amongst his own people, but because he has known how to secure to himself the esteem and affection of all the farmers of his neighborhood (cheers.) I therefore invite your royal highness, you, Lord Yarborough, and the gentlemen and farmers present, to join with me in a hearty cheer as we drink "The health of the president elect, the Earl of Chichester" (cheers.)"

VIANDS OF ITALY.

Roasted chestnuts are the potatoes of Italy. You see them cooked in every street; they are very good, and are brought to the tables of the great. Pumpkins as large as a man can carry, are cut up into slices, and sold for a quarter of a farthing each. They have no beef, except the miserable flesh of the white ox, worn down to a skeleton with drawing their lumbering drays. The skinned lambs and kids hang up by dozens at the butchers' doors, no bigger than rats. When brought to the table in the form of chops, you may cover a single one with a half crown piece. Fruit is cheap and delicious; grapes a penny a pound, apples and pears a farthing, and the most delicious oranges eight for a half-penny. The living at Rome is more substantial than at Naples, though the meat is scarcely any better.

The bread is disagreeably sour, but it may be procured at the confectioner's, made in the English way, at treble the cost. The number of small birds, sold in strings ready for the spit, chiefly larks caught in the Campagna, is extraordinary; fowls may be bought at five pence a piece. Turkeys are very abundant; you see them driven in flocks, like sheep in England, blocking up the streets. These are a very common food amongst the lower classes, who usually buy half a turkey; and I have frequently remarked the dexterity and expedition with which the stall-keeper will split the turkey in two for the convenience of purchasers. Young wild boars, hunted in the Campagna, with porcupines from the same district, are considered great delicacies.

The abundance of vegetables is quite surprising. Broccoli is a great article of food—very excellent and very cheap. All sorts are cooked in the streets, whence you have them brought to your table. The natural richness of the soil is peculiarly favorable to the growth and perfection of vegetables. We had, in the month of December, green peas and asparagus for dinner. Pasta in Italy is excellent, and the water, sparkling from the fountains, is the finest in the world. [Sketches from Italy.]

HARDENING HIDES.

The following patent process for hardening hides, extracted from Examiner Page's Report, will be found to be not a little interesting. The hide is hardened and rendered transparent as horn.

In the first place they are submitted to the sweating operation or liming, for removing the hair. They are then submitted to the action of powerful astringents, such as sulphuric acid, alum or salts of tartar dissolved in water at a high temperature. During the operation of clearing the hides of the oil, they are rubbed, or friction is applied in any convenient way, whereby the hide becomes thickened; and after this process is finished, they are rinsed in warm water and dried. After being dried, they are submitted to the action of boiling linseed, or any other drying oil, and retained in the hot oil until a yellow scum appears on the surface of the hides, when they are withdrawn. If it is desirable to impart color to the material, a staining in imitation of tortoise shell, it is done while in the oil bath, and when removed from the bath it is submitted to pressure in moulds for the formation of various articles, as knife handles, &c. For the article, when it comes hot from the oil bath is very soft and pliable, but when allowed to cool, it becomes hard and susceptible of a high polish.

BUILDING. It is now time to commence setting buds in fruit trees. This should be done before the stock or the bud has ceased to grow for the season. Pear stocks set growing sooner than apple stocks, and buds in them must be set early. Plum stocks and cherry stocks also set growing early in the season unless the land is highly manured and well tilled.

Apple trees may be budded late in August, if they have been well hoed. Peach trees grow still later, and it is not safe to set buds in them very early. It is necessary to have sap enough in all these to make the bark peel readily when the buds are set.

No precise time can be set for budding as trees continue to grow much later in some seasons than in others. In dry summers it may be difficult to start the bark after the first of August; yet much depends on the cultivation of the ground. [Ploughman.]

BILLS OF BASTILE MORTALITY.

The slaughter of hogs in the port State of the West five years is given as follows:—

1843	912,000
1844	642,000
1845	555,588
1846	800,000
1847	1,492,924

Doctor Johnson's words were true—Pig has been wanting to pig. Nearly a million and a half of these interesting animals in one short year, developed, as the transcendentalists would say, from the state of pigdion into that of porkdion. Let no lean skeptic say, "Credat Judeus." [St. John (N. B.) Chronicle.]

WILSON, THE ORNITHOLOGIST. The following is an extract from a letter written to a friend by this clever and amiable naturalist:—"One of my boys caught a mouse in school, a few days ago, and directly marched up to me with his prize. I set about drawing it the same evening, and all the time the panting of his little heart showed the extreme agonies of fear. I had intended to kill it, in order to fix it into the claws of a stuffed owl; but happened to spill a drop of water near where it was tied, it lapped it up with such eagerness, and looked into my face with such an eye of supplicating terror, as perfectly overcame me. I immediately untied it, and restored it to life and liberty. The agonies of a prisoner at the stake, while the fire and instruments of torture are preparing, could not be more severe than the sufferings of that poor mouse; and, insignificant as the object was, I felt at the moment the sweet sensations which mercy leaves on the mind, when she triumphs over cruelty."

WHITE SWALLOWS. We are informed by a gentleman "who has seen the elephant," that there is at present a nest of young swallows, perfectly white, on the premises of Capt. Pratt, of Greene. The old swallow, also perfectly white, was first seen last summer in that neighborhood. There are now three young ones, and they are regarded as a great curiosity. [Lewiston Journal.]

REARING OF CATTLE.

What has been said regarding the food given to the cow will be more or less effective in promoting the growth of the young animal fed solely on milk; when richer in curd it promotes more muscle; when richer in phosphates, more bone, and in butter, more fat. Milk is a perfect food for a growing animal—nothing is wanted in it; the mother selects all the ingredients of this perfect food from the substances which are mingled in her stomach from the food she eats; she changes them chemically in such a degree as to present them to the young animal in a state in which it can most easily, and with least labor, employ them for sustaining its body, and all this at a given appointed moment of time. In due time, the young animal begins to feed for itself, and then the mother improves in condition. Warmth, exercise, and good food are all that is then required, always bearing in mind that, as nature prepares the food for young animals in a state in which they can easily digest it, so we should prepare by boiling or steaming all dry food and roots for the same purpose. In the growing animal the food has a double function to perform: it sustains and it must increase the body; hence, whatever tends to decrease the sustaining quantity, (and cold, exercise and uneasiness do so,) will tend in an equal degree to lessen the value of a given weight of food in adding to the weight of the animal's body; to the pregnant and to the milking cow the same remarks apply. The custom of allowing young cattle to remain, during the whole winter, in straw-yards, exposed to all the variations of the weather, cannot be too loudly condemned. Oil-salt, it is true, which is sometimes given in large quantities, may make some small amount, by the supply of carbon to the system, but if a warm, dry and clean shed was substituted, with turnips instead of cake, the condition and quality of the animal would be very much improved, and a considerable saving of expense be effected—to say nothing of the improvement of manure.

All vegetables contain ready formed, (which they extract from the food on which they live,) the substances of which the parts of animals are composed. The animal consequently draws ready formed the materials of its own body from the vegetable food it eats. The starch, sugar and gum in vegetables are to supply carbon for respiration. Carnivorous animals obtain it from the fat of the food; young animals which live upon milk, by the milk-sugar it contains. In the young animal we find an excess of life—it has to increase as well as sustain life. In the full grown animal we find the daily waste of substance which is carried out of the body by the excretions made by the lungs, phosphates, and the saline substances in its food, and a balance kept up between the powers of life and the bodily structure, it simply has to sustain itself. In the old animal, when life is diminished, we observe a proportionate decrease of bodily substance.

It is interesting and wonderful, when we thus trace the existence of the bodily structure of all animals ready formed in the vegetable—which property in vegetables is formed during their growth, is derived from sources purely gaseous and inorganic, by chemical, mechanical and physical operations. It is the duty of the practical farmer to adopt these methods for improving the soil, but forms no part of my subject. [Farmer's Friend.]

IMPROVEMENT IN THE NAIL MANUFACTURE. A machine has been recently put in operation by the British and Foreign Nail Company, London, which is highly spoken of by the English journals. The nails are said to be of the first class description, possessing all the qualities of the finest hammered nails, though produced at an expense which will enable them to be sold at a lower price than is paid for the most common cut-nails. It seems that the whole nail, head, body, and point, is made at the same time, and simply by one operation of the machine. The estimates which are apparently prepared with great care, and founded upon the present prices of iron and nails, show a return of more than 40 per cent.

RATIFIERS OF CLIMATE.

However great may be the fluctuations of temperature in the same months and seasons—however sultry the summer or cold the winter, in any particular year, its mean temperature varies but little from the climatic, or average actual mean of the locality, when once correctly ascertained; and, even the greatest variation between one year, and any other the most opposite in character, and extending over a long period of time, when accurately expressed in figures, appears so trivial, that except to the meteorologist it fails to convey any adequate idea of the excess or deficiency of heat, or of the absolute difference in temperature between the periods in question. [Jameson's Jour.]

Every dairy should have a vessel of lime-water sitting in it, say half a gallon of lime to ten or twelve of water, simply to rinse every thing in. The vessel can be filled up as often as you please. It will remove acidity or bad odor.

NEW MATERIAL FOR CLOTH.

It has recently been found that the leaves of the pines contain an extremely fine, glossy, and silken fibre, easily separated by heating and washing. The ultimate fibres are finer than those of cotton or linen, applicable to the same purposes.

TO KEEP A HOUSE COOL.

Open the windows and doors at five o'clock in the morning, keep them open two hours; then close them all—windows, doors, and window shades—and the house will remain cool during the hottest part of the day.

LARGE LOCOMOTIVE.

The New Castle Manufacturing Company have just completed a very large locomotive for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, which is power far surpasses ordinary engines, and is calculated to draw one thousand tons. It is called "Saturn." It weighs about twenty tons, and cost \$60,000.

PERMANENT CONTRAST TEST.

A capital has no permanent interest test till he is two and a half years old, and then only the two front or centre ones.



AUGUSTA, THURSDAY, AUG. 24, 1848.

A NEW SUBSTANCE FOR FOOD.

Accounts have been given in some of the French papers, of a new article of food found by the French army on the highlands of the South of the French Provinces in Africa, and in Algerian Sahara.

It is a species of lichen or moss, and is found to possess nutritive qualities that make it valuable. It is wonderful to observe how Providence has scattered abroad substances suitable for food, placing them in different situations and adapting their natures to their different locations with wonderful precision, so that however unlike circumstances may make them, they nevertheless contain principles and elements that shall make them subservient to the great end of preserving and prolonging animal life.

This substance is described by Mr. Raymond, an assistant surgeon of the army, as detached from the soil, on which it is rolled here and there by the wind, and has the appearance of small pieces of leather, of the color of the earth, rolled and doubled up together. It is dry and as hard as a grain of corn; it is white inside, and presents a farinaceous aspect when it is crushed; its taste is very much like dried grain, and a prolonged mastication develops a slight degree of bitterness.

According to observation and information which has been collected, we are certain that it is produced every year, after the rainy season, under the form of moss, on the ground, to which it is at first attached. The upper part is then whitish, and that which lies on the ground takes the color of the earth. The sun afterwards acts upon this substance, which becomes dry, rolls itself up and becomes crisp. It then detaches itself from the soil, and the wind drives it about and collects it under the folds of thyme, the only vegetable which grows upon the land where it is produced.

It is called the Lichen Esculentus, and is supposed to be similar to a lichen of which the Tartars make a great use, perhaps the same species.

Two loaves were made of it by order of Gen. Jusuf. One contained the pure lichen, was somewhat softer than the other which had more than a tenth part of flour added, but both were found to be equal to the army bread, and valuable as an article of diet.

PRESERVATION OF EGGS.

This, after all the recipes given, is no easy matter. One reason is this. The egg contains, within itself, the elements of decomposition, and if the temperature be not kept pretty uniform and at a low degree—no so low as to freeze, however—these elements are set to work, and the egg becomes changed and injured if not spoiled. Some pack them down in fine water, some in brine, some in pulverized charcoal—all of which articles will preserve them very well if kept cool—but after all, an egg kept this way six months or a year, even if not tainted, will not be equal to a fresh, new laid one.

Some time ago a Mr. Jayne, of Yorkshire, in England, adopted the following process for preserving eggs, which he says kept them in a good condition two years. He obtained a patent for the mode, in England, but that will not prevent any one in this country from using it if he likes.

Take one bushel of quick lime, thirty-two ounces of salt, eight ounces of cream of tartar. Mix the salt together with as much water as will reduce the composition to a consistency that an egg when put into it will swim. The eggs may now be put into it, and kept down by a board with a gentle pressure upon it.

ELECTRICITY IN POISONING BY LAUDANUM. Not long since we gave an abstract of a report, in the London Lancet, of the use of electricity in poisoning by laudanum—another case now occurs to us. Two or three years ago the Hartford Courant gave a case of treatment in such times, of which the following is the substance.

A Mr. Fowler was found at his lodgings, apparently dead from poison, he having purchased and swallowed two ounces of laudanum. The usual remedies were tried without effect, when it was recommended to use electricity. The conducting wire was applied to the chest, and a shock given him, when he rose up, but sank slowly again. Another shock was given him, when he rose up and exclaimed "oh!" and again fell back. On the third shock he rose up and remained in a sitting posture. He soon asked for drink, and was supplied with tea and coffee. In the course of an hour he had almost entirely recovered.

These facts are worth remembering. There seems to be a sort of paralysis or torpor of the nervous system, produced by opium, which electricity counteracts.

A GEM OF A PAPER. Decidedly and emphatically the "Boston Museum" looms up above its numerous contemporaries a head, a head and a half, or two heads. It is a gem of a weekly literary and miscellaneous journal, and does honor to the "craft typographical," the get-together, and to the editor, the filler-up. It is of large size, in quarto form, printed on pure white paper of a fine quality and on new type. It is the nearest craft that made our port for a long series of years. It is edited by William O. Eaton, and published by Dow & Putnam, 27 Devonshire-st., to whom all business letters should be addressed, post paid. Terms—\$2.00 a year, or \$10.00 for six months, in advance. May the Museum live to a green old age and its attractions never be less.

SYMPATHY WITH THE IRISH. A very large meeting was held in New York, on Monday night of last week, for the purpose of creating sympathy and raising funds for the Irish. Five thousand and seven hundred dollars were collected. Pretty good evening's work for the village of Gotham.

PERMANENT VISIT. The children, with their parents and teachers, connected with the Methodist Sabbath school in Bath, came to this place, in the steamer Malden, on Monday of last week. They were met at the wharf by their denominational friends in town, who provided a collation for them in the grove on the east side of Burnt Hill.

TOWN LANDING.

Mr. HOLMES—You frequently in your valuable paper notice improvements that have been made in the town to promote its prosperity. Will you permit a subscriber, through your columns, to notice one that may be made? One not only for the benefit of those doing business in the town, but for those doing business with the town, from the country; and that not only in the facility that it will give to the transaction of business, but benefit the town in a pecuniary point of view, producing to them an annual income instead of an annual expense. The Town Landing, or the eight rod runway, ending at the Kennebec River, is at present difficult of access, and, in its present state, a great obstruction to gaining access to the two valuable wharves on either side of it;—and when the new street across it shall have been opened and made, the communication with the river will be measurably cut off. Therefore, I would propose that the town should authorize the Selectmen to build a bulkhead across the end of the Landing in a line with the end of Smith's and Flag's wharves, and have the same properly ballasted,—to be made with a slip-way left within and under the cap of the wharf, of from 10 to 15 feet wide, and of sufficient height to admit of the hauling out of the water timber, boards, &c., &c. The wash of earth from Jail Hill and the Square will, in a very short time fill the space within without any expense. Such an improvement would enable the neighboring owners to gain a better access to their property, and to teamsters and truckmen a greater ease, in getting on and off the wharves, as this wharf, at the end, might be raised advantage be raised some four feet above the other wharves.

It might be either rented for the benefit of the whole town, or thrown open as a free wharf, for the landing of goods, &c., &c., and thereby distribute part of its benefits to the country, and thus encourage the country traders to embark their produce at this place, rather than further down the river, where it can now be done at much less expense.

There are various other considerations that might be urged in favor of the project. If the town have the authority to lease the Landing, in its present state, no doubt that there are individuals in the town that would be glad to make the improvements mentioned, at their own expense, and, after a certain time, surrender the whole to the town. It appears to me to be a matter worthy the attention of the Selectmen; to see if they will at a proper time present the same, in a proper manner, for consideration by the town. LOOKER-ON.

BOWEL COMPLAINT. A writer in the Bangor Courier gives the following as a pretty effectual remedy for this common summer complaint:

"Those persons who are afflicted by the prevailing bowel complaint, may be speedily restored to perfect health by taking half a teaspoonful of common pulverized rosin once or twice each day."

FATAL ACCIDENT. The Biddeford Herald states that Mr. Franklin Libby, aged about twenty-seven years, son of Dea. Libby of Portland, was almost instantly killed, at the Kennebec depot, on the 14th instant, by being crushed between a tender and a car. He was connected with Longley & Co's Express, and was an estimable man.

HOTEL TO LET. By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that the well known "Augusta House" establishment is offered to let, and the furniture for sale. The present occupant wishes to retire from the vocation of "hotel keeping." A good opportunity is presented for any one wishing to engage in the business. Mr. Robinson has this house; and we venture to say there is not a patron of the establishment, nor a citizen of the place, who does not regret that he is to relinquish the business and to leave the town. No man better understands the wants of the traveling public than he, and no one ever better provided for them. Hotel keeping is a profession in which few excel. Mr. R. is one of the few, and it's a pity he cannot consent to "serve another term." Success to you, Timothy, wherever you pitch your tent.

PISTOLS FOR TWO. Senator Butler, of South Carolina, challenged Senator Benton to mortal combat, a few days since, for telling him, (Butler) in the course of an excited debate, that he "lied in his throat." They were both arrested, and pledged their honor to keep the peace until after an investigation of the facts. It is said that Mr. Benton made the following nice distinction: on returning to his seat, he remarked to those about him, "Mind you, I did not *lie* in my teeth, for then a man might say *it out*, but I put the *lie* in the throat where it *ought* to stick." Pretty business for our grave Senators, to be sure.

PORTLAND INQUIRY. The title of a Free Soil campaign journal recently started in that city. It supports Mr. Van Buren for the presidency. Published by Brown Thurston, at 50 cts. for the campaign.

CHOKED TO DEATH. The Bath Tribune states that a child of Mr. Wildes, of Philadelphia, was choked to death by a bean, on the 14th instant.

BLACKBERRIES.—the most wholesome berry of the season—are said to be very abundant this year. At Togus they raise lots of them. Emerson serves them up in good style. Blackberries and Toga water will, of course, insure health.

BADLY OFF. The Thomaston Gazette of the 17th, says: "The weather of the past week has been the most oppressive of any we ever experienced; the thermometer indicating degrees of heat from 95 to 103; the atmosphere filled with clouds of lime dust at day and fog by night."

THE CROPS IN PISCATAQUIS. The Dover Observer of the 17th inst. thus speaks of the crops in Piscataquis county:

"The crops in this county look extremely well—we never saw wheat look better. Corn is pretty well 'filled'—and if the Hon. Jackson Felt does not trouble us until after September Election, there will be a good crop in the county. Potatoes, we hear, in some places are infected with the rot, but not very alarmingly—we opine there will be a decent crop."

FATAL ACCIDENT. The Boston Traveller states that Mr. John Ford, formerly of Hallowell, Me., a laborer on the water works in that city, was killed on the 16th inst., by the falling of a stone, blown from the ledge in which he was at work. The stone weighed about thirty pounds, and killed him instantly.

JOHN WRIGHT, a native of Nova Scotia, died in Bath on the 15th inst., from the effects of drinking too freely of cold water. Two men died in Boston last week from the same cause.

SIMPLE INVENTION.

Under the above caption the Baltimore (Md.) American of a late date says: "The most profitable inventions have generally been the most obvious. What could be more simple, for instance, than the balance handle knife—the idea of making the handle heavier than the blade, so that the latter may not fall upon the table when the knife is laid horizontally? And yet the English inventor has made an immense fortune out of his lucky thought. Gen. Mosely, of Kentucky, is likely to reap an equally ample pecuniary harvest from an idea hardly more complex. It is of an irregular piece of iron, or eccentric lever; no bigger than an ordinary castor to a table, which forms a perfect window-fastener, by which weights and pulleys may be entirely dispensed with. The operation is as certain as it is simple; and the expense of attaching it would be fifteen cents a window, instead of three dollars, which is about the cost of attaching the present apparatus. Gen. Mosely has also received a large sum from this little contrivance—the plan of which he whittled out of a block of wood in about ten minutes."

To which the Brunswick (Me.) Advertiser of the 19th instant adds:

"Gen. Mosely, or his assignee, is informed that a citizen of this town (Brunswick) has had the above described invention in actual use for more than a year, of which ample proof can be furnished. He thought it prudent to test the invention by practice, and to add improvements, the last of which was to secure the window when down, as well as to detain it when up. He was just preparing to secure his right by law, when the foregoing notice appeared in the Baltimore newspaper. If the General can show a prior date, the inventor in this town will cheerfully retire from the field, but if not it is obvious that his patent is null, and the first inventor will attest his legal claims."

It would seem from the above that our upstart friend had "headed" the Kentuck General—or rather, got the start of him.

DEATH OF MR. HAYES.

The Cleveland Herald of the 4th instant gives the following particulars of the death of this estimable young man, noticed in our last week's issue:

"This morning between 2 and 3 o'clock, while the steamer Ohio was lying at the pier, a young man, passenger on board, in attempting to walk ashore, fell into the river and was drowned. Prompt efforts were made to rescue him, but darkness prevented success. From papers found on his person it appeared that his name was Edmund Hayes, and his residence Portland, Maine. He was about 24 years of age, recently from Bowdoin College, and those of his fellow passengers, who became acquainted with him, represent him as a young man of excellent character, rare talents and promise. His untimely death will be a severe affliction to his distant friends."

A meeting of young men of the city was held at the Council Hall to make suitable arrangements for the stranger's burial. A committee of three was appointed to make all proper arrangements for the funeral—the meeting resolved to attend, and thereupon adjourned."

The Herald of the 5th says:

"A large number of the young men of the city attended this morning the funeral ceremonies of Mr. Edmund Hayes, whose sudden death we announced yesterday. A very appropriate and impressive address was made by the Rev. Mr. Canfield; the procession then followed and proceeded to the cemetery."

We understand that the committee of young men have deposited in the Commercial Bank \$45.22, subject to the order of his friends, this being the amount found on his person. His other effects are in charge of Rev. Mr. Canfield."

Mr. Hayes' friends reside in Industry. It will be a source of pleasure to them in their affliction to know that their departed friend received at the hands of strangers a brotherly burial—all the usual obsequies.

FIRES. Mr. Carpenter Winslow, of Pittsburg, informs us that, on the 15th instant, his barn was struck with lightning and consumed, together with a quantity of hay and some farming implements. Entire loss at least \$800, on which there was an insurance to the amount of \$270.

The Farmington Chronicle states that on the same day, the barn of a Mr. Potter, in the same town, was struck with lightning and consumed, together with about forty tons of hay.

LENGTHY EXTENSION. Telegraphic communication now extends from New Orleans to Portland.

NOMINATIONS. At the Kennebec Whig Senatorial and County Conventions held in this town on the 16th instant, the following nominations were made: For Senators, John T. P. Dumont, Oliver Bean, and Oliver Prescott; for County Commissioners, Thomas Eldred; for County Treasurer, Daniel Pike; for County Attorney, Richard H. Yose.

F. B. LADD, one of the best portrait painters in the country, is in town. He is a native of this place. Those who wish to be painted, and in a life-like style, had better give Mr. Ladd a call.

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES at Bowdoin College will take place on Wednesday, the 6th of September.

POTATO ROT. The Farmington Chronicle states that the potato rot has commenced its ravages in that vicinity, and appears to be as destructive as in the two or three years past.

GODLEY'S LADY'S BOOK for September is a good number. For sale at Fennell's and Gault's.

IRISH FEATHERS. A foreign paper states that not less than \$50,000 worth of feathers are imported from Ireland to England, annually, and yet there are thousands and thousands in Ireland that have not a feather bed to lie upon.

RAILROAD IMPROVEMENT. We are told that an experiment has been tried on the Auburn and Syracuse railroad, by which the disagreeable noise of the cars has been obviated. The plates have been laid aside, and the ends of the rails connected by dovels 1 1/4 inch long—and this does away with the jarring. It may be so.

PARADE COMING. It is reported by some foreign correspondents, that Prince de Joinville, and some others of the French Grandees, are about purchasing a tract of land on the Mississippi, for the purpose of establishing a colony.

NOT WELL WATERED. There are no navigable rivers in California, except what empty into the bay of San Francisco, and these not very far up. It doesn't rain there from March to November, and the fields get as dry as a chalk line.

THANKSGIVING IN MISSOURI. The 24th day of November has been appointed by Gov. Edwards, of Missouri, as a day of Thanksgiving. He gives them only notice so as to get the turkeys fat.

TO BE CORRECTED. The Boston House of Correction contains 145 male persons and 93 females, making 238 needing correction.

SPLINTERS.

Dr. Young, of Bangor, is lecturing, on various subjects, in Oxford county, for the purpose of raising funds to help him along with his botanic survey in that region.

The north-east storm of last week somewhat cooled the atmosphere, to the great joy of many who were perspiring very freely. It was a damper to Togus and Boothbay.

The potato rot seems to be going it with a perfect looseness in almost every quarter.

The Lewiston Falls woolen factory has stopped operations for the present.

The Boston Atlas, a capital paper for news, has donated an entire new dress.

A lot of human bones were dug up by laborers on the railroad at Brunswick, a few days since. From appearances they are supposed to have been placed there many years ago.

There are, it is said, at the present time seventy dental practitioners in Boston, and all well sustained. A man no need to "gum it" there.

The income of the Fall River railroad for July was \$16,896 56; expenses, \$6,565 44. Comfortable business.

The Biddeford Herald states that there are scarcely laborers enough to be procured to satisfy the wants of the builders in that thriving town.

A negro man was struck by lightning in Baltimore a few days ago. The fluid struck him, passed down one side, crossed the abdomen and went down both legs. He is in a fair way of recovery, though he says he can't live, for he never saw a tree struck by lightning that didn't die.

The New York Tribune of the 14th says, the amount of specie in the sub-treasury is a million and a half, and in the treasury and the banks the amount reaches seven millions. The daily payments for duties are large, having been on the 12th about \$130,000.

The farmers in Western Texas are turning their attention to the raising of sheep. It is estimated that more than 30,000 sheep have been taken into Texas this year.

Miss Harriet Livermore, of N. H., who has made two pilgrimages to Jerusalem, is now lecturing in order to obtain funds to make a third visit to the same city.

The New York Journal of Commerce says it was rumored in that city that a party of fishermen recently discovered a keg containing fifteen thousand Spanish dollars, on Barren Island.

Portland has voted to accept the act authorizing the city to loan money to the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad, 1171 to 23.

Within the last eighteen months not far from sixty flouring mills have been erected in the State of Michigan.

A city editor, after enlarging in full and glowing terms on the advantage of giving charcoal to sheep, observes in closing, "we have tried it." What does he mean?

A communication by telegraph has been made between Boston and New Orleans in three hours.

One of the charges specified in the indictment against the Felon newspaper, is a song written by a son of John Mitchell, ten years of age!

Springer & Rohan of this town, turn out some fine specimens of marble work.

The Pikes are in demand in this county as well as in Ireland. Daniel Pike is the Whig candidate for County Treasurer, and Daniel T. Pike is the Democratic candidate for the same office.

Some of the female operative rioters at Pittsburg, who had a turn out recently, threw a "unsound egg" at one of the proprietors of a factory. He didn't "smell the rat" soon enough to escape the "spatteration."

A large meeting of the friends of Ireland was held in Hartford, Ct., on the 16th. About five hundred dollars were collected.

An enthusiastic Irish meeting was held in Philadelphia on the 17th, and a large amount of money collected.

The Whigs of the Cumberland Congressional District have nominated Dr. Isaac Lincoln, of Brunswick, for Congress, and Thos. A. Deblois for Presidential elector.

The London papers gravely announce that Queen Vic is again in a delicate situation. She's one of 'em.

John Donkey is growing philosophical—hear him—"The trees are now clad in their foliaceous habiliments. Singular how they got their clothes out of their trunks without opening them. Does anybody heig?"

Some seventy slaves have recently taken French leave of their masters in Kentucky. The masters are terrible wrathful, and talk fiercely about the abolitionists.

The present number of clergymen, of all denominations, in the United States, according to the latest estimates, is about thirty thousand.

The Whigs of the Hancock, Washington, and Aroostook Congressional District, have nominated George Downes, of Calais, for Congress, and Andrew Peters, of Bluehill, for Presidential elector.

The importance of the trade of River Plate to the United States, is not generally known. The exports of Montevideo alone, it is stated, last year, were to the United States about 480,000 hides, 135,000 hams, 830,000 pounds of hair, and 2,750,000 pounds of wool, besides many other articles.

Dr. Johnson dined with a Scotch lady who had a hotch potch for dinner. "Is it good, Doctor?" asked the hostess. "Yes," said the Doctor, sharply, "it is good for hogs, madam!" "Then, pray," said the old lady, "let me help you to a little more of it."

Hon. J. S. Little has been elected President of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad.

Paris has lost of her population since June 23d, in slain, fugitives, prisoners, and exiles, 58,000.

A drover from Ohio, named Reuben Morris, who had sold his cattle in Philadelphia, and had about \$1000 with him, was murdered for his money about fifty-seven miles from that city. His body was found.

General Putnam asked General Washington—"which was the worst, to swear, thinking no evil, or to pray, thinking no good?"

The Pittsford Sun chronicles a rash claim by Com. Thomas Britton, sixteen inches in length and seven inches in circumference.

There are seventy-two thousand Indians in the three territories of Oregon, California and New Mexico.

A cow near Baltimore, has given birth to a calf with six legs.

It is not generally known that black berries are red when they are green.

The editor of the Arkansas Journal, says—"Where our office was two weeks ago, now runs the Mississippi river. Out of respect to the father of waters we left."

CONSECRATION.

The Consecration of Forest Grove Cemetery, took place on Wednesday last, and a large number of persons assembled to witness the interesting ceremonies.

The day was fine, and a very beautiful part of the grounds had been selected and arranged for the occasion.

After a solemn and impressive prayer by Rev. S. Allen, an original hymn was sung, and then followed the address by J. Oliver Means, A. M. This was a chaste and eloquent production, admirably adapted to the occasion. He spoke of death as one form of existence—as a necessary part of our being—and alluded to the customs and rites of various nations in honoring their dead. In the course of the address he dedicated and set apart the spot,—in the name of the corporation,—as a place sacred to the burial of the dead. The poem, by Rev. W. Craig, succeeded the address, and was, as all who knew his fine genius anticipated, a beautiful and thrilling thing. It was well spoken, and its fine passages and stirring apostrophes found a responsive chord in the hearts of the audience. The appropriate hymn, "I would not live away," was then sung, and the exercises closed with a benediction.

The spot selected for the Forest Grove Cemetery, is beautifully located, well laid out into lots, and ornamented with trees, shrubs, &c.—a fit place for the burial of the dead. We rejoice that people are so generally selecting and beautifying private grounds for the resting place of the departed—and there are, in this Cemetery, very many lots, as yet unpurchased, which should be taken and improved by plants, trees, &c. The lots can be had at low prices, and what is obtained for them is expended in adorning the grounds. We advise our friends to provide, in life, a pleasant spot for their repose when "the places that now know them shall know them no more forever."

BREAKING UP OF ENCAMPMENT. The Mexican correspondent of the Boston Atlas, in a very interesting letter relative to "matters and things in general and some things in particular"—and in which he takes occasion to speak in high terms of commendation of Capt. Charles N. Bodfish, of Gardiner—thus graphically describes the breaking up of a day's encampment, on the march of our troops from the city of Mexico to Vera Cruz:

"The next morning, we were up bright and early, ready for the march onward. It was not yet dawn. The stars still glistened in the sky above, but every man was on his feet. The bugle had sounded the reveille, and the drums had beat. What bustle, life and activity are every where visible at such an hour! Here you see a line of some twenty acres completely white with tents and wagons. It is night, and silence reigns throughout the camp. No sound is heard save the measured tread of the sentinels going their rounds, and occasionally challenging some loiterer. Every tent contains four or five soldiers, wrapped in their blankets, and every wagon one or more teamsters. The night wears away; the moon rises, and the stars glisten on high. At two or three o'clock in the morning, or just before dawn, the shrill blast of a bugle is heard sounding the reveille. It is immediately answered by another blast in a different part of the encampment. Suddenly the drums beat in every regiment. Instantly every soldier in his foot-lights are glancing from tent to tent, and camp-fires are burning in every direction. There is a general hurrying to and fro among the soldiers, and 'mounting in hot haste' among the officers. Presently huge piles of coffee are seen near the fires, around which the men gather with their tin dippers. Then is brought the boiled beef, or bacon, with large rolls of bread. The laugh and song, and joke are heard every where, and the neighing of horses, or the frightful braying of mules. Everybody is drinking coffee, either in the open air or in tents, or marching away upon meat and bread, without thinking of plates, knives or forks. Another blast from the bugle at headquarters. In an instant every tent is struck, and then commences the packing of the baggage and camp equipage in the wagons. In half an hour or so this is accomplished. A third time is heard the shrill sound of the bugle. The wagons form into line—the troops in advance—and the whole mass—on foot or on horseback—is in motion. Though there seems to be a good deal of confusion and disorder when the army is preparing to march, yet there is great order in all its movements, intricate as they appear, and every thing goes on with the regularity of clock work. On, on moves the train, each wagon accompanied by one or more soldiers on foot; and you will see, also, some twenty or thirty Mexican girls, barefooted, and keeping the train company. They have come from the city with the teamsters, and expect to accompany them to the States, but they will hardly be allowed to proceed further than Vera Cruz. One place is as much a home to these creatures as another. On the sides of many of the wagons may be seen, also, cages, containing parrots or other birds, and a number of curious men, some of whom are of the most beautiful plumage. Mexican dogs, too, by hundreds, are brought along, and capital dogs they are! Indeed, the number of curious of one kind and another, from an Aztec god to a Mexican sword or a matrice, brought from the capital, is large enough to stock Kimball's Museum from basement to cupola. Every one brings away something. The train crocets onward, stopping every three or four miles to rest a few moments, till it reaches another place of encampment. The tents are then pitched, the wagons brought in the rear of the different regiments, and all is life and bustle during the remainder of the day."

GUTTA SERENA FOR DECEASED TESTES. Dentists are now plugging decayed teeth with Gutta Serena. It is put in while melted, and when cool becomes hard and stays put.

SHARKING. The Nantucketers, for lack of whales, have entered into a warfare with the sharks. They make it quite a profitable business.

VIEW OF MAMMOTH CAVE. A Panorama view of the Mammoth Cave, has been painted by an artist named Brewer—so that if you can't go to the cave, the cave can come to you, and exhibit its wonders to the eye.

DELIVERED UP. Vera Cruz was delivered up to the Mexican authorities on the 1st inst. The retaking was a very quiet affair.

GVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA. Gen. Bennet H. Riley will perform the duties of Governor of California, until a Territorial Government shall be organized.

STRIKE OF THE GRAVE DIGGERS. The Sextons of Gotham are getting restive. They have struck for higher wages. We wouldn't give them their price as long as we lived.

USING UP THE WATERS. The House of Representatives at Washington, used up 100 pounds of waters, during the past session. There must be a great deal of sticking, to say nothing of the hooking.

GOOD PROFITS. The receipts of the Providence and Worcester Railroad will amount, during 1848, to \$300,000.

GOOD. The Cincinnati Commercial says that an "eating house" in that city, called "Lamarine," stands at the head of the "provisional government."

AMERICAN ART UNION.

This Institution holds out great inducements to subscribers for 1848. In addition to the large engraving of "Queen Mary signing the Death Warrant of Lady Jane Grey," each member will be entitled to a copy of Irving's Rip Van Winkle, with six large outline illustrations—and we notice, among the paintings already purchased and to be distributed by lot, the celebrated paintings, by Cole, entitled "The Voyage of Life," a series of four paintings, the original cost of which was about \$6000.

The engraving of this year is a very beautiful mezzotint, and very creditable to American Art. The A. A. Union is an American Institution—its aim is to develop our own genius, and the plan adopted, is this:—Each subscriber pays five dollars a year, for which he is entitled to the engraving, &c., and has a chance to draw a painting worth from \$50 to \$1000. It is supposed that about three hundred paintings and four hundred and fifty bronze medals will be distributed this year by lot. It is very desirable that subscriptions should be made early in the year, and we advise all those who wish to make a good investment to call forthwith upon Bess. A. G. Fuller, Esq., who is the Honorary Secretary for this place, and subscribe.

DROWNED. John Young, Jr., a carpenter by trade, was drowned at the dam in this town on Monday last. In attempting to cross the river above the dam in a boat, the wind, blowing strong from the north, forced the boat down stream, and as it pitched over the dam, he fell into the water. The boat kept right up, going over a portion of the dam where the perpendicular fall is but slight, and had been in a sinking posture instead of standing, he would probably have gone over safe. Tuesday noon his body had not been recovered.

AUSTRIANS DEFEATED. In an attack upon Verona recently 17,000 Austrians were defeated by a much smaller number of their enemies. Subsequently 7000 Austrians were defeated by 4000.

GETTING STRONGER. The recent exertions of the Bank of France to sustain its credit have been successful. The notes in circulation are 9,000,000, and the revenues of the bank are, in notes 476,000,000, and in bullion 169,000,000.

FIRE INSURANCE. The committee of inquiry into the late insurrection in France have closed their labors. Among other Louis Blanc and Cassidiere, members of the assembly, are deeply implicated.

ADAMS HOUSE. A friend writes us that the Adams House, in Boston, has been reopened by Chamberlain & Co., and is kept on strictly Temperance principles, and is a first class hotel, equal to any in the city of notions.

THRIFTING. Boston jail is looking up, having a present population of prisoners amounting to 137 persons—the largest number ever confined there at one time.

